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Economic and Social Council

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Agenda item 13 (a)
Economic and environmental questions: sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President, Martin Belinga-Eboutou (Cameroon), on the basis of informal consultations

Report of the Committee for Development Policy

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolution 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, annex I.B, wherein it decided that the Council should decide on an appropriate work programme for the Committee for Development Policy,

Recalling also its resolutions 1998/39 of 30 July 1998 on the status of the least developed countries and 1999/67 of 16 December 1999 on the report of the Committee for Development Policy, and its decision 1999/290 of 26 October 1999 on the consideration of the graduation of the Maldives from the list of the least developed countries,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 46/206 of 20 December 1991 and 52/210 of 18 December 1997,

Taking note with appreciation of the presentation by the Chairman and other members of the Bureau of the Committee for Development Policy, and of the report of the Committee on its second session,[1] including its analysis of the role of information technology and development and its suggestions regarding an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium,

Noting that the report requested from the Secretariat and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the effective benefits derived by the least developed countries specifically on the basis of their inclusion in the list of least developed countries[2] and on the practical impact of the measures in favour of least

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 13* (E/2000/33).

[2] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1997, Supplement No. 15* (E/1997/35), para. 239.

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developed countries[3] has not yet been made available to the Committee for Development Policy,

Having considered the letter dated 22 July 2000 from the President of the Maldives addressed to the President of the Economic and Social Council,[4]

Having also considered the memorandum submitted by the Government of the Maldives,[5]

Noting paragraphs 65 and 66 of the report of the Expert Group Meeting on Testing and Simulations of the Economic Vulnerability Index, annexed to the report of the Committee,[6]

1. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee for Development Policy that Senegal be added to the list of the least developed countries, subject to the concurrence of the Government of Senegal;

2. *Decides* to defer to its next substantive session the consideration of the recommendation to graduate the Maldives from the list of the least developed countries, and requests the Committee at its third session to re-examine its recommendation in this regard, taking into account, *inter alia*, the reports referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of the present resolution, and the memorandum submitted by the Government of the Maldives;[5]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the Committee's recommendation to graduate the Maldives, to report on the progress achieved in the implementation of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 46/206, and to make recommendations on additional measures that can be taken to ensure a smooth transition from least developed country status for graduating countries;

4. *Looks forward* to the report being prepared by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the effective benefits derived by the least developed countries specifically on the basis of their inclusion in the list of the least developed countries and on the practical impact of the measures in favour of least developed countries, and requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to include in that report an assessment of the implications of graduation for the Maldives;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of consulting with relevant Member States in the drawing up and use of country vulnerability profiles as well as the continuing need for transparency, objectivity and accuracy in these processes;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to take into account the recommendations of the Expert Group of the Committee on the format and content of future vulnerability profiles;

7. *Takes note with appreciation* of the revised criteria for the identification of least developed countries presented by the Committee for Development Policy in its report, and requests the Committee to continue its work on the methodology to be used for the identification of the least developed countries and, where appropriate,

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[3] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 14* (E/1998/34), para. 175.

[4] See E/2000/97.

[5] See E/2000/104.

[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 13* (E/2000/33), annex I.

in association with other international organizations working on environmental and economic vulnerability issues, to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2002 on the criteria it proposes to use in the triennial review of the list scheduled for 2003;

8. *Further requests* the Committee, at its third session, to examine and make recommendations regarding the theme chosen for the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council;

9. *Welcomes* the proposals made by the Committee regarding its future programme of work;

10. *Invites* the Chairman and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue the practice of reporting orally to the Council on the work of the Committee.